

# WHAT IS NEWBORN BLOODSPOT SCREENING?

- A** Every baby born in North Dakota is required by state law to complete the newborn bloodspot screening test, which is a simple blood test that identifies nearly 50 disorders.
- B** Babies with these disorders may look and act like a healthy newborn, but may have a medical condition that could cause serious illness, disability or death.
- C** There is treatment available for the disorders screened and most babies who are identified early can grow up to be healthy.
- D** To see a complete listing of all the conditions included on the newborn screening panel, visit the North Dakota Newborn Screening Program website.



Call or visit the North Dakota Newborn Screening Program for more information.  
1.800.472.2286 | 701.328.4532 | [ndhealth.gov/newbornscreening](http://ndhealth.gov/newbornscreening)



All babies benefit from newborn screening. To optimize your baby's health and meet the state requirement, ask your health care provider to screen your baby within 24-48 hours after birth. For information on where to receive testing for babies born outside of the hospital, call the Newborn Screening Program or check the website for a facility near you.



## NEWBORN BLOODSPOT SCREENING, STEP-BY-STEP



**24-48**  
HOURS AFTER BIRTH

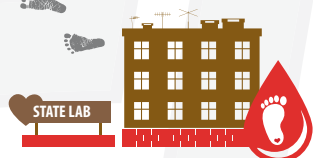
24-48 hours after birth, a **blood spot screening** is done to check your baby's health.



Each spot is smaller than the size of a dime.



At the lab, special equipment tests the blood spots. Your baby's blood is tested for nearly 50 disorders.



A few drops of blood are taken from baby's heel and placed on a blood spot card and sent to a State Lab for testing.



Your health care provider will give you the results when they are available.

### NORMAL RESULTS

If everything looks ok, the results are sent to your baby's health care provider. Ask for your baby's results at the first newborn visit!

### ABNORMAL RESULTS

If there might be a problem, the lab will call your baby's health care provider. Screening can only tell if your baby **MIGHT** have a health problem; we won't know for sure until your baby has more testing. Your baby's health care provider will talk to you about what needs to happen next.

## WHAT HAPPENS TO BLOOD SPOT CARDS?

- 1** To make sure the tests and equipment work the way they should, quality control may be done at the laboratory before the blood spot goes into storage. The blood spots are de-identified, meaning the baby's name, date of birth, and any other identifying information is removed.
- 2** After testing, the dried blood spot cards are returned to the North Dakota Department of Health and are stored at a secure location in North Dakota. The blood spot cards are destroyed after your child turns 18 years old.
- 3** Families may benefit from having their baby's blood spot card stored. If a child gets sick, the blood spot can give an idea if something at birth made the child sick. A blood spot may also be used to identify a missing or deceased child or if the parents request information for future pregnancies.
- 4** If you would like your baby's blood spot card returned to you and not be stored, please complete a request form that can be found on the Newborn Screening Program website or ask your health care provider for more details. Storage, destruction and further testing would be your responsibility if the card is returned to you.



**By law**, newborn screening is required; however, you may refuse the testing by completing a refusal form, which can be found on the Newborn Screening Program website.



**No research** will be done on your baby's blood spot without your written consent.

This project was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number UG5MC27837 to the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) for the Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) Newborn Screening Implementation Program which provided \$2,000,000 during the fiscal year 2016. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS, the U.S. Government or APHL.

## A KEEPSAKE FOR YOU & YOUR BABY

Baby's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Baby's Due Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Health Care Provider \_\_\_\_\_

Baby's Health Care Provider \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Newborn Screening Done Date of Test \_\_\_\_\_

Ask for your baby's newborn screening results at your first newborn visit with your health care provider!



Baby's First Photo

**CONTACT US:** @

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